

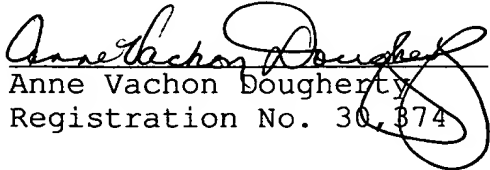
REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. The Examiner has reopened prosecution and has rejected Claims 1-20 under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by the Greenspan patent.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Greenspan patent is not available as a reference against the present patent application. The Greenspan patent was filed on November 24, 1999. The present patent application was filed in the United States on June 21, 1999. Accordingly, since the present application for patent was filed in the United States on a date which is earlier than the effective date of the cited reference, the cited reference is not prior art under 35 USC 102(e).

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and issuance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,
Y. Nakamura, et al

By: 
Anne Vachon Dougherty
Registration No. 30,374

3173 Cedar Road
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598
Tel. (914) 962-5910